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THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) to (c) Investigation has not been completed and the cost of the scheme, extent to be benefited, etc., can be determined only after the completion of the investigation, and receipt of complete proposals from the Chief Engineer. The scheme is likely to be taken up as soon as it has been approved by the Planning Commission, if necessary, and sanctioned by this Government and funds provided for execution."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether the Government will consider the possibility of taking up this scheme if public assistance is offered by way of donations? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Public assistance has been offered in this case and taking that into consideration we have been investigating the scheme."

Stage of progress of the Kundah and Periyar Hydro-Electric Schemes.

* 116 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the present stage of progress of the undermentioned projects :—

(i) Kundah Hydro-Electric Scheme; and

(ii) Periyar Hydro-Electric Scheme?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (i) The revised scheme report and estimate for the Kundah Hydro-Electric Scheme have been forwarded by this Government to the Planning Commission for approval and inclusion of the scheme in the First Five-Year Plan. The Commission's reply in the matter is awaited.

" (ii) The Periyar Hydro-Electric Scheme has already been included in the First Five-Year Plan and the execution of the scheme will be taken up after a settlement has been reached with the Government of Travancore-Cochin in regard to the utilization of the Periyar Lake waters by the Madras Government for power generation."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know, Sir, how far the negotiations with the Travancore-Cochin State Government have proceeded with regard to Periyar Project and when the scheme is likely to be taken up? " 3 p.m.

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We have offered some terms to them and their reply has just now been received. Yesterday only I got a reply. We are examining that and the starting of the scheme will depend upon the acceptance by us of their proposal."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the gist of the reply will be communicated to us in view of the anxiety of the House to expedite the scheme? ".

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, the reply was received only yesterday and the Department is examining it. I can place it before the House after it is analysed."

Experiment of transacting the official business in Tamil language.

* 117 *Q.*—SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the experiment of transacting the official business in Tamil language has been introduced in Tiruchirappalli district;

(*b*) under what provision of Constitution or law, such experiment has been introduced;

(*c*) whether Government passed orders as to how to carry out such experiment successfully, and if so, in what departments of Government in Tiruchirappalli district;

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the names of the Collectors and district heads posted to Tiruchirappalli district from the date of the introduction of the experiment and the period of their service in the district;

(*e*) whether the district officials engaged are well versed in Tamil language; and

(*f*) whether the Government have called for any periodical reports from the district heads as regards the experiment and its progress?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (*a*) On 1st May 1948, Sir.

" (*b*) The scheme was introduced by issuing an executive order.

" (*c*) Yes, Sir. The scheme is in force in all Departments of Government as well as local bodies in the district except Law Courts.

" (*d*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (*e*) It will be observed from the statement placed on the table of the House that most of the officers are well versed in Tamil language.

" (*f*) Annual reports are received from the Collector of Tiruchirappalli through the Board of Revenue. In view of the satisfactory progress of the experiment, it has been extended from time to time."

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" எதாவது ரிப்போர்ட் செய்திருந்திருந்தால் அதை சபையில் வைக்கமுடியுமா ? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 414–420 infra.